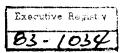
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The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

23 February 1983

The Honorable Vincent Puritano Assistant Secretary (Comptroller) Department of Defense Washington, D.C. 20301



Vince:

I just received word of your swearing-in ceremony and wish to congratulate you on your appointment. Needless to say the Secretary will be well served by your knowledge and competence in this field. It is even more important and timely when one considers the enormous budgetary pressure upon Defense and the hurdles that must be overcome to move forward with Defense's new initiatives.

Unfortunately, a long awaited dentist appointment stands in the way of the ceremony and like all good troopers you will appreciate my demurring "because the crown comes first."

Good luck and God bless. Please don't hesitate to call if you need anything from this quarter.

With best wishes for success.

Warm regards.

John/N. McMahon

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